



P&A ORIENTATION

Curt Decker, Executive Director, NDRN

Tom Masseur, Executive Director, Disability Rights Arkansas

Nachama Wilker, Deputy Executive Director for Training and Technical Assistance

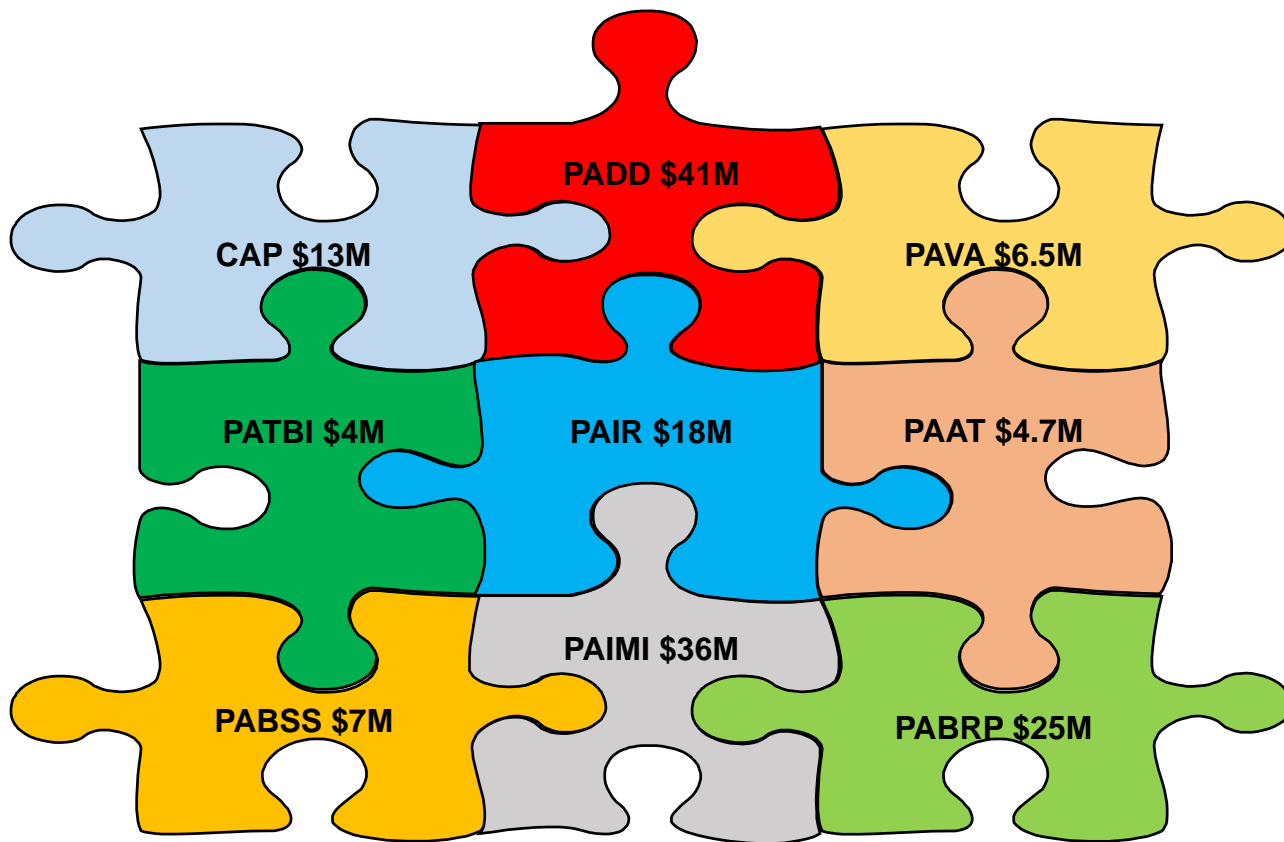


NDRN AND THE P&A NETWORK

Curt Decker, Executive Director
National Disability Rights Network

Protection and Advocacy Agencies

- Created in 1978 and has grown to 9 federal programs
- A program in every state and territory plus a program in the southwest serving the Native American population
- 57 in total
- Mostly non-profits with 5 exceptions in state agencies



- PADD Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
- CAP Client Assistance Program
- PAIMI Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness
- PAAT Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology
- PAIR Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights
- PATBI Protection and Advocacy for Traumatic Brain Injury
- PAVA Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access
- PABRP Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries with a Representative Payee

Structure of Protection & Advocacy Systems

- Governor's Designation
- Formula Grant
- Continuum of Remedies
- Authority
- Priority Setting

Continuum of Remedies

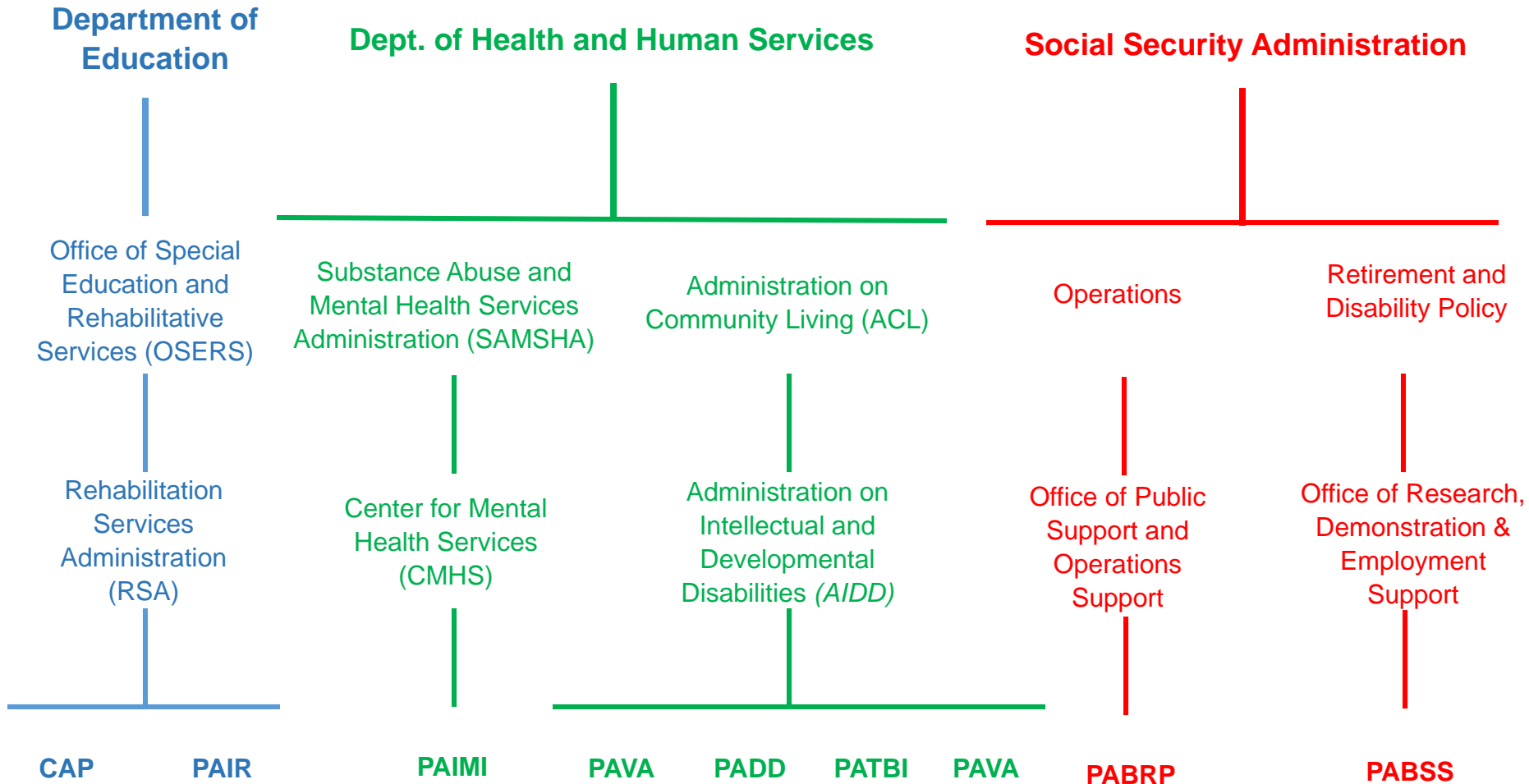
- Information and Referrals
- Outreach to Unserved and Underserved Communities
- Training, including Self Advocacy Skills
- Legal Counsel and Advice
- Negotiation and Mediation
- Administrative Proceedings
- Individual Litigation
- Investigations of Abuse and Neglect
- Monitoring
- Public Policy and Legislative Advocacy
- Public Relations
- Systemic Litigation and Advocacy

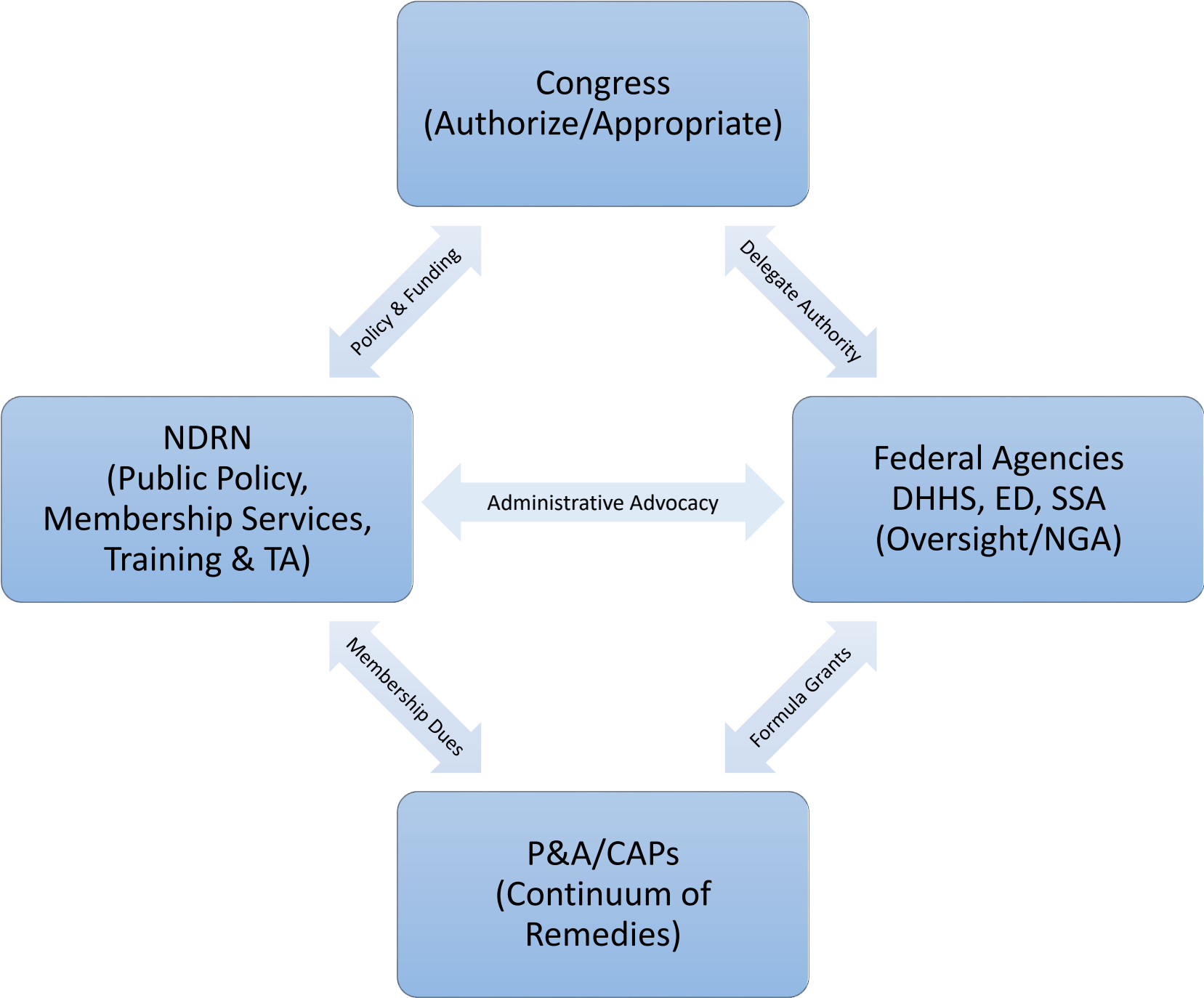
Authority

“Pursue legal, administrative & other appropriate remedies”

- Range of Issues
- Ranges of Remedies
- Ability to Respond
- Access Persons, Records, Facilities

Federal Government



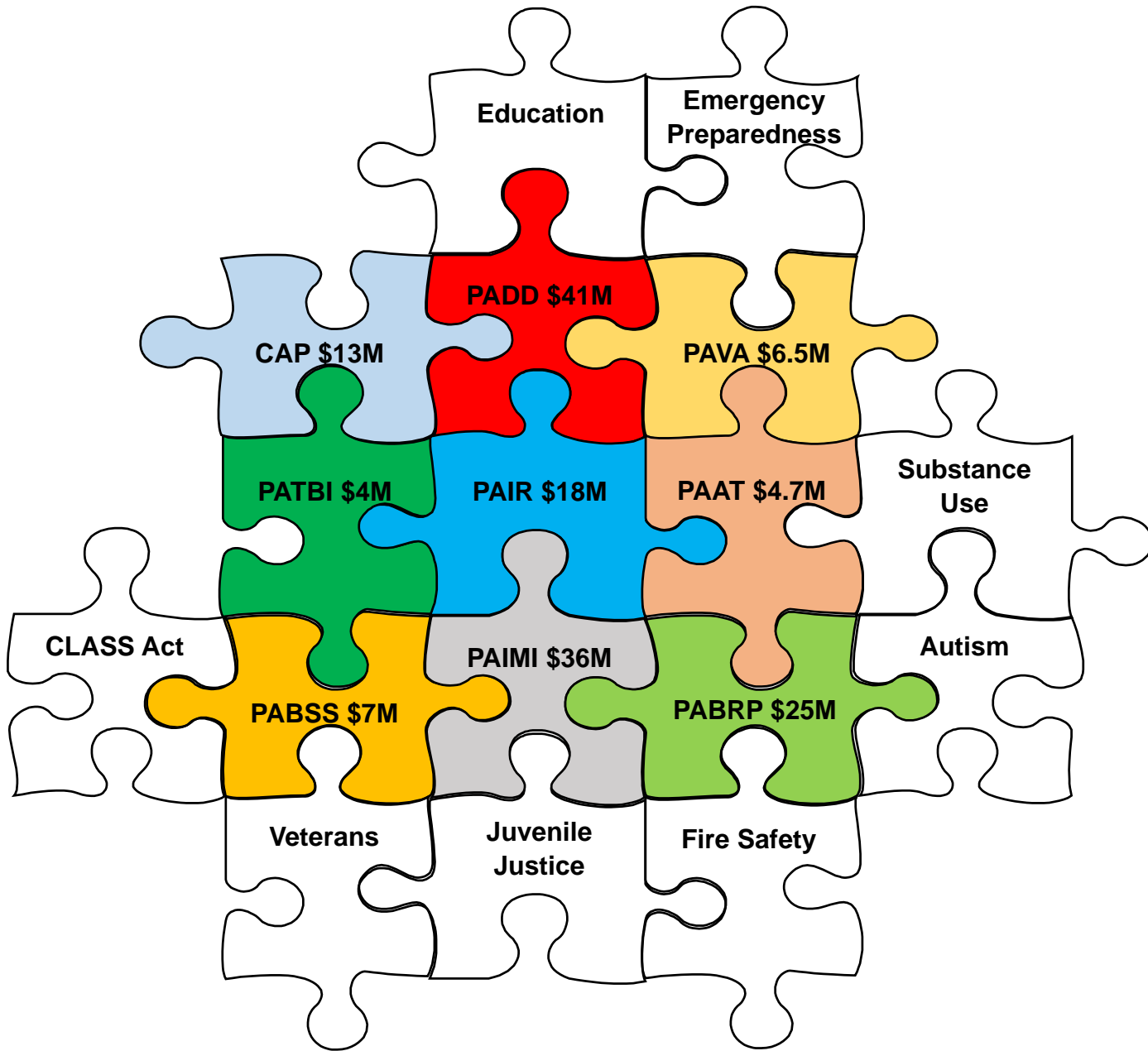


NDRN Activities

- Trade Association
- Training and Technical Assistance Provider
- Quality Assurance
- Membership Services
- National Disability Rights Leadership
- Contractor and Fundraiser for Members

NDRN Activities

- Katrina Aid Today – UMCOR
- Case management for people with disabilities affected by Katrina and Rita Hurricanes
- MOU with the American Red Cross
- MOU with FEMA
- MOU with DOL





FIVE THINGS I WISH I KNEW WHEN I STARTED

Tom Masseau, Executive Director
Disability Rights Arkansas

Board Governance

- ❑ Boards provide oversight – not micromanage – your executive director.
- ❑ Boards work with the executive director and staff to develop priorities at the higher level.
- ❑ Board members have to learn about the issues the agency staff are on and making change.
- ❑ Board members need to donate and fund raise for the agency.

PAIMI Advisory Council

- Council members provide advice and recommendations to the board of directors.
- Council members help agency staff stay focused on mental health issues within the state.
- Council members need to get educated on mental health system in my state – who are the key players, etc.

Program work

- Client Direction - P&A advocacy is directed by the individual whether we agree with the decision or not. P&A staff do not act in the best interest of individuals.
- Individuals with disabilities have a right to make decisions that impact their life. Our role as advocates is to support them in that decision.
- The types of cases states take help to shape public policy at that state and federal level.



Fiscal/Budget

- Allocation of funding – All aspects of our time needs to be accounted for and billed to a grant
 - ▣ Timesheets
 - ▣ Reimbursements
- Everything is billed back to grant, so need to keep track of everything.
- Know your fiscal person for each grant.
- Get to know your legal counsel or HR specialist (if contracted out).

Others

- We do not handle social security claims for people.
- We do not handle divorces, bankruptcies
- Every state and territory has someone who is doing the same job that you are doing in your state.
- Pick up the phone, send an email to a discussion board and ask for advice or assistance – don't reinvent the wheel.

Poll Question:

- Name one thing that was helpful to you in your orientation?**



TRAINING ADVOCACY SUPPORT CENTER (TASC)

Nachama Wilker,

Deputy Executive Director for Training and Technical Assistance

NDRN

Our Mission

- To enhance the advocacy functions of the P&As and CAPs to protect the civil rights of people with disabilities through delivery of training, technical assistance, and networking.
- Learn about our history, P&A standards, our authorizing statutes, eligibility on our website here: <https://www.tascnow.com/role/new-pa-employees/introduction-to-the-pa-network/>

Build your knowledge and skills

- Discussion Forums: Online communities of the P&A network and NDRN staff by area of interest and job function
<https://www.tascnow.com/resources/discussion-forums/>
- TASC Update - Get the latest news, resources and alerts about upcoming trainings
<https://ndrn.salsalabs.org/tascupdatesignup/index.html>

Build your networks

- NDRN staff resources -
<https://www.ndrn.org/about/staff-leadership/>
- Legal and fiscal back-up
 - ▣ Center for Public Representation
 - ▣ National Health Law Program
 - ▣ Marcum and Associates
- Connect to peers
- Use the P&A Standards

Let us know what you need:

Curt.Decker@ndrn.org

Nachama.Wilker@ndrn.org

TMasseau@disabilityrightsar.org